

Amendments

In the Claims:

Please cancel ~~claim~~ 22.

Please substitute the following claim 1 for the pending claim 1:

Sub c13

1. (Once amended) A method for providing latency to a pharmaceutically active agent comprising associating a fusion protein comprising a latency associated peptide and a proteolytic cleavage site with a pharmaceutically active agent, wherein said fusion protein provides latency to said pharmaceutically active agent.

Please substitute the following claim 2 for the pending claim 2:

2. (Once amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the latency associated peptide comprises the precursor peptide of TGF β -1, 2, 3, 4 or 5.

Please substitute the following claim 3 for the pending claim 3:

3. (Twice amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the proteolytic cleavage site is a matrix metalloproteinase (MMP) cleavage site.

Please substitute the following claim 4 for the pending claim 4:

4. (Once amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent is a growth factor, differentiation factor, cytokine, chemokine, trophic factor, cytokine inhibitor, cytokine receptor, free-radical scavenging enzyme, peptide mimetic, protease inhibitor, tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase sub class, inhibitor of serine protease, chemotherapeutic agent or peptide nucleic acid sequence.

Please substitute the following claim 5 for the pending claim 5

5. (Once amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the fusion protein is in association with latent TGF β binding protein.